

Bedford Youth and Family Services Committee Meeting

MINUTES

Thursday, May 12, 2016

Attendance: Sue Baldauf, Director; Tom Pinney, Chair, at large; Caroline Fedele, Selectmen and Recreation Commission; Dan Brosgol, School Committee; Ali Malkin, At large; Marcia Morgan, At Large, Scott Jones, Police

Absent: Caroline Donnelly, Health; Jeff Wardwell, Police; Peter Ricci, at large; Dawn Shewmaker/Terrie Jordan, HAFB

Meeting opened at 7:02 pm with Chair Tom Pinney presiding.

Minutes: Minutes from March 10, 2016 meeting were approved as amended.

Old Business:

Grants update: Sue reported no grant applications filed this cycle and plans to offer Mental Health First Aid training through local clergy over the summer and awaiting a commitment from schools for the fall

Veterans Update: Bedford Green at the VA Hospital due to open mid-June, Veterans Agent has been involved in process and conducting a needs assessment for Ch. 115 benefits.

Line item for district Veterans agent services is over budget by \$2400 this fiscal year and since level funded for FY17 also next. Shortfall will be adjusted in FY18 budget.

Transitional Families Update: Sue compiled a summary of involvement and Marylou and schools will be working on over the summer.

Programming: Sue had a nice op-ed piece in the Boston Globe (4/1/16) on the education of youth with respect to any decriminalization of underage drinking. Shared information about upcoming opioid community education events and plans to attend.

Office has been promoting bicycle safety education to encourage youth, particularly middle school students, to wear bicycle helmets. To encourage better helmet use, group discussed partnering with Police to provide ice cream coupon incentives for those caught wearing a helmet.

Dr. Kevin Hill, an expert on the effects of marijuana and the teen brain, plans to apply for a 5-year National Institute of Health (NIH) grant to develop a curriculum for 9th grade students on marijuana and alcohol and asked if Bedford would like to partner on this. Sue is in conversation with the Superintendent's office about this opportunity.

Other: In collating data of BHS Youth Risk Survey there were an unspecified number of Suicide responses that elicited some concern to the extent that the school guidance department and the wellness council were promptly alerted.

New Business:

The FY'17 BYFS meeting schedule was distributed

Officer selection
Ali Malkin- appointed the new At-large Chairperson

Updates from Committee Participants:

At large - Ali started discussion of the effects of concussions on college athletes and knows presenters willing to come out and present their research to parents

Selectmen and Recreation Committee-Caroline Fedele

- Caroline reports that the town has hired a new DPW director
- Town is looking for a home/location for a town museum

School Committee-Dan Brosgol

- The Job Lane school feasibility study has been completed
- JoAnn Santiago was recently elected to the school committee
- Heather Galante is the new principal at BHS
- Task Force consisting of 45 to examine and discuss the Bedford school holiday and religious observances calendar
- Lane School may need another 5th grade teacher due to higher than expected enrollment
- Davis school has some termites

Police – Scott Jones

Police preparing for: Prom stroll May 31st, under-aged house parties and under-age drinking, working with town and regional officials on the opioid crisis. Discussed plans for scavenger hunt this year given issues last year and group was uncertain of the status.

Chair, At large – Tom Pinney

- Relay for Life is a week from Saturday (5/21). Fundraising is a little behind.
- All-night Graduation is June 2nd and is also a little behind in fundraising.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:56 pm.

Next meeting is on 9/8/16 at 7:00 pm. Chair: Ali Malkin Clerk: Tom Pinney

Respectfully submitted,
Scott Jones, Acting Clerk